DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY FSchmeler DATE 7/2/85
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENFORCE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☑
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

R 545

Q: ~~Has this Administration~~ reneged on a Carter Administration pledge to consult with Congress before agreeing to the F-15 enhancements?

A: No. We, of course, are aware of the assurances the previous Administration gave to the Congress in 1978 regarding these items. The critical fact today is that circumstances in the region have changed dramatically. The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the turmoil of the Iranian revolution, the Iran-Iraq war and the Soviet presence in South Yemen and Ethiopia underscore the instability in the region and the dangers of Soviet penetration and exploitation. Before our March 6 announcement of the proposed sales to Saudi Arabia, we consulted closely with Congress regarding the serious deterioration in security conditions in the region and the growing threat to our friends there from Soviet and other pressures. These proposals for military sales are ~~a sign~~ consistent evidence of our determination that the United States will move decisively and quickly to protect its interests, and those of its friends and allies, when they are threatened.

Drafted:NEA/IAI:JFScott:kbm
4/21/81:X23672